

NEWT GINGRICH know how they got that.

Another problem they have is that they said, let us talk about it, but they have decided it is 7 years. Well, at least the Speaker is honest enough to say he just made it up; it just sounded good to him.

Mr. Speaker, the third and the most vicious thing I think one of the leading candidates for President from the other body said, and that is that they have been voting against Medicare ever since it has been enacted. The record is abundantly clear that they want to get rid of Medicare and they want to give tax cuts to the rich.

POLITICAL SHOW TRIAL

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, it read like a bad movie, except it's true. This is the story of a career government employee, Billy Dale, a man now 58 years old who had worked for the last seven Presidents helping with travel reservations. But in 1993, the new President and his wife decided to fire the veterans in that office and replace them with relatives and cronies. Billy Dale was fired and the cronies were hired and the Travelgate scandal was born. It became so serious that it was at the center of the note found after Vince Foster's death.

But that was not the end of it for Billy Dale. Apparently, to justify the firing the White House had him investigated by the FBI for more than 2 years. They poured over every aspect of his life and then prosecuted him for supposed embezzlement. From all appearances, Billy Dale and his family were caught up in a political show trial. Yesterday, it took a jury only 2 hours to find him not guilty. This is not supposed to happen in America. But it did.

NO BALANCE IN BUDGET BILL

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, today, the Gingrich budget comes to the floor. The Republicans like to call it the balanced budget plan but there is nothing balanced about Speaker GINGRICH's bill.

There is nothing balanced about raiding Medicare to pay for a tax cut to the wealthy.

There is nothing balanced about slashing education while eliminating the corporate minimum tax.

There is nothing balanced about gutting environmental protection in order to placate corporate polluters.

There is nothing balanced about raising taxes on people making under \$30,000 a year while cutting taxes for people making \$500,000.

There is nothing balanced about the Gingrich budget, it takes from our

most vulnerable citizens to lavish gifts upon the most well to do. to quote an old song, if the Republicans want the President to sign their budget: Try a little tenderness.

□ 0945

WORKING TOGETHER TO PASS A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, options, options, options. That is all the President is left with these days. We all know he does not have any solutions of his own.

He chose one of those options. He shut down the Government. He chose poorly.

He did not want to talk about it, but let me outline what his other option was. He could have agreed, in principle, to the idea that we should balance the budget in 7 years. He could have sat down and worked with Republicans to pass a balanced budget.

But the President chose a different option. He chose to shut down the Government, because it made him look decisive—something that has not happened during his entire tenure as President.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are simply trying to do what the American people have asked us to do—balance the budget. I wish the President would join us and end the Democrat legacy of passing the buck on to future generations.

GINGRICH PLAN CUTS SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO GIVE TAX BREAKS TO WEALTHY

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker says one thing and does another. He said he wants to save Medicare, yet Speaker GINGRICH speaking to a group of insurance executives said he wants to let Medicare wither on the vine. He says he wants a balanced budget yet the Gingrich plan cuts \$270 billion from Medicare to give tax breaks to the wealthiest people in this country. The Speaker said he wants opportunity for future generations. Yet the Gingrich plan cuts billions in student loans for working families. He said he wants to give a tax break to the middle class. Yet the Gingrich plan raises taxes on 13 million working families.

Sure, Mr. Speaker, listen to what the Speaker says, but more important pay attention to the Gingrich plan. It cuts Medicare, it cuts student loans to middle-class families, it raises taxes on working families, all to give a tax break to the richest people in this country.

REPUBLICANS COMMITTED TO BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Day four of the Clinton shutdown of the Government. Why? Because he cannot even agree in principle that we should balance the budget in 7 years. Let me say that again. The President will not even agree in principle that we should balance the budget in 7 years. We are not talking about specifics here. All we want the President to agree to is the concept that we should pass a plan based on independent, honest Congressional Budget Office numbers that balances the budget in 7 years. Period. But the President will not agree to a 7-year plan to balance the budget. Why? Because right now his pollsters and campaign advisers have told him that he needs to appear decisive. So the President is willing to keep the Government shut down.

Mr. Speaker, no more excuses, no more Washington gimmicks. Republicans are committed to a balanced budget. It is time for the President, not Dick Morris who evidently is running the country, to join in that commitment.

DEMOCRATS ASK FOR FAIRNESS

(Mr. BRYANT of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRYANT of Texas. The last speech, Mr. Speaker, has got to top all of them this morning for turning the facts on their head. The fact of the matter is it is the obligation of the Congress to pass a budget. We are 45 days late. It was supposed to be passed by October 1, and no budget has been sent to the President. That is why the Government is shut down. The President himself of course has not done it.

The fact of the matter is that the Republicans want to send him a budget, although they have not done it yet, that relies upon drastic cuts in the Medicare insurance program for elderly people and big tax breaks for the wealthy to get to what they call a balanced budget.

Everybody wants a balanced budget, but the top 1 percent have an average income of \$600,000 a year. They get a tax cut under this Republican plan of \$15,000 while the bottom 20 percent with an average income of \$6,000 a year either get no tax cut or many of them get a tax increase of \$173 a year. That is not fair, and until it is fair, Democrats will continue to vote "no."

THE BUDGET SHOWDOWN

(Ms. DUNN of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago candidate Clinton promised that he would present and support